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THE NEW
NATIONAL
READING
BOOKS

REVISED EDITION

PRIMER



NATIONAL SOCIETY'S DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, D. C.





NEW
NATIONAL READING BOOKS

Primer

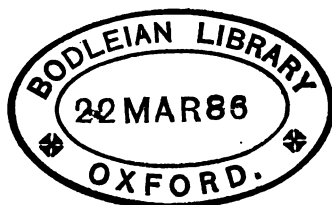


REVISED EDITION

LONDON
NATIONAL SOCIETY'S DEPOSITORY
BROAD SANCTUARY, WESTMINSTER

1885

3984. f. 143



P R E F A C E.

IN arranging the lessons in a first reading-book, the usual plan is to introduce one or more new sounds into each new lesson. This plan has the advantage of being systematic. We have not, however, except in convenient cases, followed it in this book. Such is not the manner in which children become familiar with spoken language, and it is therefore not the method by which they should learn to read the written language. Our chief object has been to provide for our young readers as much practice as possible in reading short easy words arranged in familiar sentences.

In order, however, that the children may have all the assistance to be obtained from a systematic study of the sounds of our language, we recommend the teacher to exercise them in finding out and naming words of the same vowel or consonantal sound. Thus, in Lesson IX. he may take the short *a* sound and elicit from the children the words *cat* and *mat*, which occur in the lesson, and others, such as *bat* and *sat*, which do not occur in it. He may then print—and afterwards write—these words on the blackboard, and, if it be thought necessary, he may cause the children to copy them on their slates and write them for a home lesson.



PRIMER.

PART I. ALPHABET.

1.

(Suggested order for teaching.)

O	I	S	T	
L	H	E	F	
A	M	N	X	
D	P	B	R	
C	G	U	V	Y
W	K	J	Q	Z



2.

A B C D E

F G H I J

K L M N

O P Q R

S T U V W

X Y Z



3.



I GO. WE GO.
I AM. HE IS.
MY OX. GO UP.
DO SO. I DO.
IS IT SO.
SO IT IS.

4.

I AM IN. SO I AM.
HE IS IN. SO HE IS.
WE GO UP. GO BY ME.
HE IS UP. SO WE GO.
WE DO IT. SO DO WE.

THE ALPHABET.

5.

(Suggested order for teaching.)

c o p s v w
x z i j k u y
e f m n a b
d g h l q r t

6.

a b c d e f
g h i j k l m
n o p q r s
t u v w x y z





7.

I go up.

so do I.

we go in. so do we.

it is he. so it is.

he is up. so he is.

go by me. we go up.

I am in. so I am.

8.

It is an ox.
It is my ox.
I am on it.
Am I to go?
Do as we do.



He is by me.
Go up to it.
He is by us.
Jo is to go.
He is to go in.



9. THE CAT.

I can see a cat.
She is on the mat.
O how fat she is.
May I pat the cat?
Pat her for me.

The cat can see a rat.
The rat is by the pan.
Run, rat, run.
Or the cat may eat you.
O, she has it in her paw.



10.

THE DOG.

Tom has a big dog.
How did he get it?
A man got it for him.
May I pat the dog?
No, do not pat it yet.

Let us go and see Tom.
You may run to him.
Tom, may I pat the dog?
Yes, he is not a bad dog.
He can beg a bit of bun.

11. THE SUN.

It is hot to day.

Yes, for the sun is up.

Let us sit on the log.

Put on a hat or a cap.

Do not sit in the sun.

How big the sun is!

Yes, and it is far off.

Now we are not so hot.

We can not see the sun.

At eve the sun is red.





12. THE WET DAY.

May we go out to day ?
No, my boy, it is wet.
Sit by me on the rug.
May I get a bun ?
Yes, and let the dog eat.
It is fun to see him beg.

O now the sun is out.
I see it in the sky.
Let us go out and run.
Do not get in the mud.

13. THE COW.

Do you see the cow?
Yes, and Ned is by her.
Ned has hay in a box.
The hay is for the cow.
Let us see her eat it.



One day a dog bit her.
He bit her on the leg.
Was he not a bad dog?
Yes; did Ned hit him?
No, the dog was his pet.



14. THE FLY.

A fly is in my cup.
Can you get it out?
I will try to get it out.
Now it is on the rim.
It will fly off by and by.

Can the fly see me ?
Yes, for it has an eye.
Now it is off in the air.
A big fly can hum.
Yes, and a bee can hum.

15. THE TOP.

Sam has a top in a box.

It is a peg top.

The peg top can hum.

Sam has a gun too.

The gun is a pop gun.

Sam, may I see the top?

Yes, Jo, you may see it.

Put up the lid of my box.

O, I see the top and gun.

A top is a toy for a boy.





16. THE FOX.

The fox is by the pen.
He is a sly old fox.
He will try to get a hen.
Can the fox eat a hen?
Yes, if we let him.

Sam has to tie him up.
He bit my dog on the lip.
Gip saw him in his den.
The fox ran out at Gip.
But we got him in a net.

PART II.

1. THE HEN.

Tom has a pet hen.
She can lay an egg
for him.

She will lay it in the
hay.

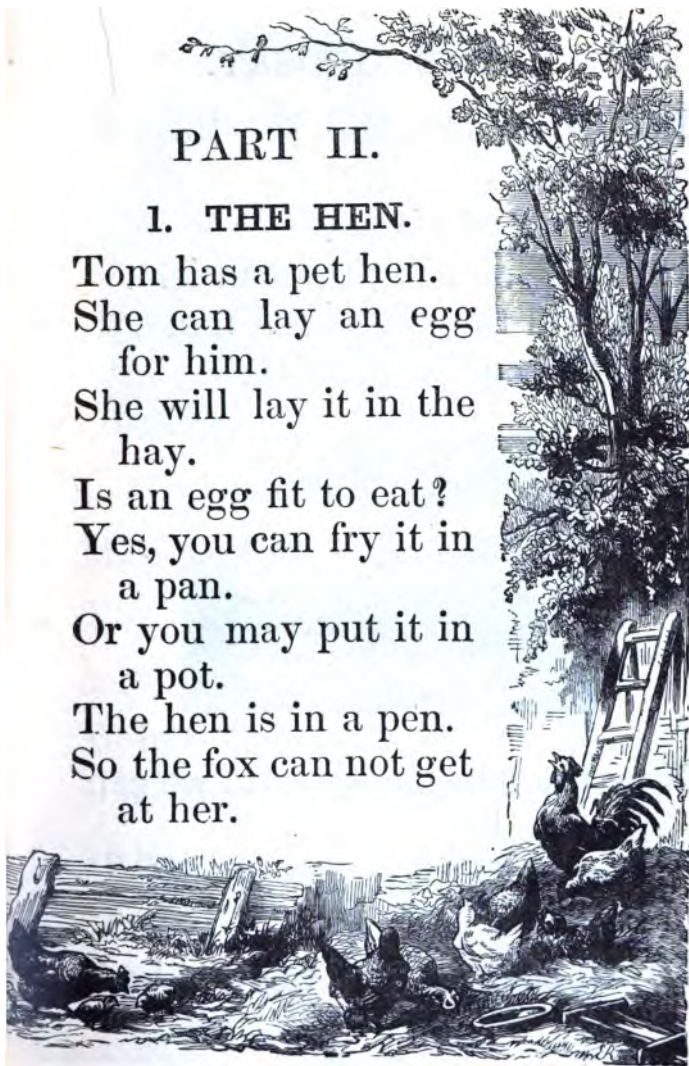
Is an egg fit to eat?

Yes, you can fry it in
a pan.

Or you may put it in
a pot.

The hen is in a pen.

So the fox can not get
at her.



2. THE SUN-SET.

Let us go out and see the sun
set.

It will set at six.

How big and red the sun is.

Yes, and the sky is red too.

It is the end of the day.



Now the sun has set, and we can
not see it.

Let us go in now, for the air is
cold.

It will soon be time to go to bed.



3.

THE DOLL.

May has a wax
doll.

It is a nice toy
for a girl.

She has a box

for it, and the box is its bed.

May had the box from Bob.

The doll has two eyes, but it
can not see.

It has two legs, but it can not
walk.

It has red lips and fine soft hair.

May is fond of her doll.

I hope she will take care of it.

4. THE PIG.



A fat pig is
in the sty.
Tom has to
feed him.

He will give him some soft peas
from the tub.

Let us stay and see him eat.

The pig sits down to look out
of the sty.

When he sees Tom, he will get
up.

The pig can not run, for he is
so fat and big.

When he is fed, he will lie in
his sty.

5. MILK.

Do you like milk?

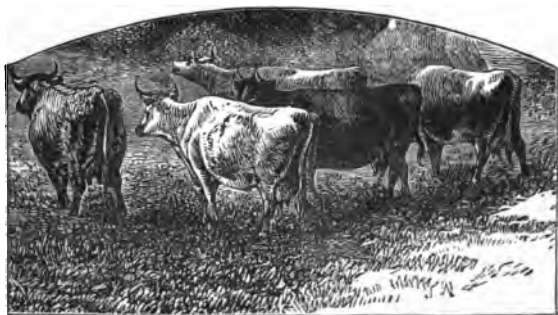
O yes, and I like it in my tea.
See, here is a pail full of nice
new milk.

It has come from the cow.

May I have some of it?

We will ask the maid to let
you have some in a cup.

The milk of the cow is good
for a boy or girl.



6. THE OLD MAN.



Do you see
this old
man? He
has a dog
with him.

The old man
can not see.

But the dog
can see, and

so the old man is led by
him.

The old man has been ill. He
lay in bed for some days.

His son was kind to him, and
so he soon got well.

Let us go and ask him to come
in.

He can sip a cup of tea.

7. THE FISH.

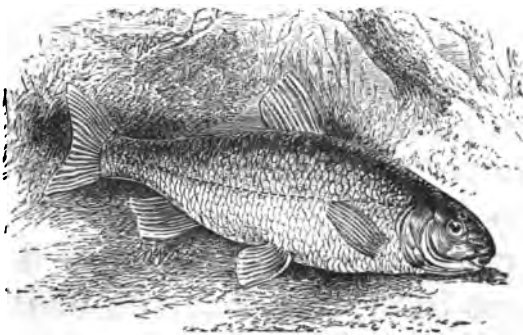
Look at this fish in the pond.
It has no feet, but it has fins
and a tail. With its fins
and tail it can swim.

Can a fish see?

Yes, it has two eyes.

One day I saw a fish eat a fly.
The fly was near the top of the
pond.

Some fish live in the sea. Men
go out in a boat, and take
them in nets.





8. THE PET LAMB.

Come and see my pet lamb.
I am so fond of it.
See what soft wool it has on
its back.
It will play with me and eat
from my hand.
The lamb can jump and skip.
I have made a soft bed for it
to lie on.
Our dog Dash is so good, he does
not bark at it, nor run at it.

9. THE WALK.

It is May day, so let us go for
a walk. How fine and warm
the day is.

We will go by the road as far as
we can. Take a good long step.



We have come a mile, so now
we will sit down and rest.

Do you see that bird in the
bush? The bird is a lark.

He will sing us a song.

His mate is in the nest hard
by. She sits on her eggs.

Now we will go home by the lane.

10. THE OWL.



Look at this bird.

It is an owl.

What an odd
bird the owl is.

The owl does
not come out
in the day, for
he can not see
in the sun.

So he sits all day
in a barn, or

in some hole in an old tree.

When the sun has set, he will
come out and fly in the dark.

The owl can not sing, but he
can hoot.

Owls eat mice.

Some men say that the owl is
a wise bird.

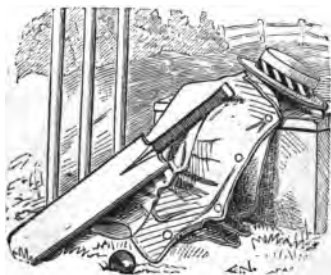
11. BAT AND BALL.

Let us go out and play at bat and ball.

I have a fine new bat for you.

Put the ball in this bag.

Now get your hat and come with me. We will go to the park.



Here we are in the park.

When I say play, you must hold your bat firm, and try to hit the ball.

Hit it as hard as you can. Now you can run to the tree and back.

You have got six runs, so now
I will take the bat. You
can send the ball to me.
When I hit the ball, you must
run and get it.
O, I am out. And it is time
for us to go home.



12. THE BIRD.

Ann has a bird in a cage.
The bird is Ann's pet, and she
likes to feed it.
Why is the cage hung up so
high?

The cage is hung up high,
that the cat may not get at
the bird.

When the day is fine, Ann puts
the cage out-side the door.

The bird will sing us a song.

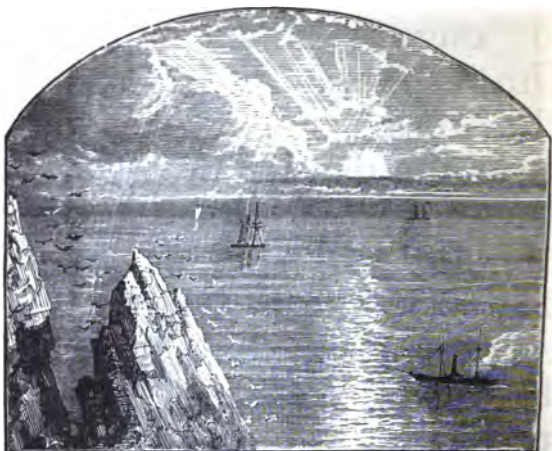
Do you like to hear it?

Yes, but I like best to hear a
bird sing from a bush or a
tree.

I do not like to see a poor
bird shut up in a cage.

A boy does not like to be shut
up in a room all day. And
a bird does not like to be
kept fast in a cage.





13. THE SEA.

It is a fine warm day, so let us go and look at the sea.

Now we have got to the top of the hill, and you can see the wide, wide sea.

It is so wide, that we can not see the end of it.

Let us run down the hill, and play by the sea. Take care that the wind does not blow your hat off.

You may dig a hole in the sand.
When you have made a deep
hole, we will wait for the
tide to come and fill it up.

14. SNOW AND ICE.



How cold the
day is. Let
us run out
and try to
get warm.
If we sit by
the fire all
day, it will
not be good
for us.

Come, Tom, will you run a race
with me? We will run to
the end of the lane.
Well done, Tom, I see that you

can run fast if you like. You will soon be warm.

Here we are at the end of the lane. The pond has ice on it, and we can walk on the ice.

Hold my hand fast, or you may slip down and hurt your arm or leg.

Now let us play at snow-ball. Get some snow in your hand, and make a ball of it.

Try to hit me, and then I will try to hit you. The snow is soft, and will not hurt you.

Well, Tom, are you warm now? Yes, and I like to run on a cold day.



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